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The Wildlife In Need Center is at:  
W349 S1480 S. Waterville Road  
Suite B  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066



WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER



## The Director's Den

By Michael Guzniczak

**It's been awhile** since we've had a chance to update our membership on the progress of the new center. 2011 has been such a hectic and busy year, it seems like only yesterday that we were planning for the season. The center has seen more change this year than in the last 15 years combined. Some say change is good, well in this case, change is fantastic. We moved into our new facility in July, and while we had some minor glitches and are still tweaking little things even today, the new center promises to be a wonderful addition to Waukesha County, the UWW-Field Station, and the Wisconsin rehab community.

While there are many new features to the facility, none are as impressive as the new flight enclosure. For the first time in the history of the center, we have a custom built, state of the art raptor flight cage for our hawk, owl and falcon patients. Another important addition is our ability to treat long-term animals such as turtles. Turtles, due to their slow metabolism take a long time to heal, and we have at least one large snapping turtle that will be over-wintering with us. Now we have two dedicated rooms available with pools and are able to see her rehab through to the spring when she will be released. You can read more about the enhancements we've been able to make in our animal care on page 3 (*A New View for our Raptors*) and page 6 (*It's the Little Things*).

At WINC we have been very fortunate to have volunteers who are passionate about the center and the work that is done here. This summer we are reminded how truly blessed we are to have such dedicated individuals. While the building is wonderful, we then needed to complete a lot of "other things" that come with running an organization like WINC. For example, we needed an innovative solution to our internet needs. One of our volunteers not only set up the system we use, but did so in a more efficient way than it had been done before. In particular, utilizing things like wireless equipment and solar power. He also installed our interior phone, network wiring and server and all the electrical needs to our backyard enclosure area.

Speaking of the back yard, we also needed to build outdoor enclosures for our patients and we needed to complete them quickly so that our 2011 animals could use them before they were scheduled to be released. Scott Diehl, Paul Matson, and Tom Roberts and a crew of other truly dedicated volunteers, all gave many hours of their time to build our enclosures. The transformation of the yard over the last three months is amazing.

We have even been blessed with donations of time and expertise from Reinders Inc. and LaRosa Landscaping in building our retaining walls, water retention and drainage systems, as well as our 2 lovely fountains.

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**Continued from page 1...** With the help of Rose Knapp and her CAT team from Lad Lake we've been able to make the yard a functional and safe environment to work in even though we still have a lot of work ahead of us. All of these people and more, from the contractors and carpenters who built the building to the volunteers who helped clean out the old facility, WINC has been truly blessed to have such dedicated and passionate people supporting it.

The possibilities that lay before us as we settle into this beautiful new space are great. It's amazing how many individuals we have touched just by moving to our new site. On a recent Saturday, when the weather was still nice, we had nearly a dozen people just walk in off the Glacial Drumlin bike trail to inquire what the new center was and who we were. The exposure for the center and the field station is going to be wonderful in terms of the number of animals we can help and people we can reach out to.

And speaking of the field station, our next big step is to build on our collaboration with UW-Waukesha, the UW-Extension and the entire UW-System. I keep telling people that while the building and moving of the WINC facility is the biggest event this organization has ever undertaken, the collaboration with UW going forward will be even bigger.

I have yet to talk to any staff, volunteer, intern or patient, who misses the old house. Ok, so I really didn't actually get a response from the patients, but you can tell just from their demeanor that they are more comfortable with their new surroundings. Really, in all seriousness though, everyone is thrilled with the new center and if you haven't yet stopped by and checked it out I invite you to do so. In fact, do so often, because things will be changing and improving as we finish off the Gathering Area and it's displays, the plans for cameras to view operations within the clinic and web cams set up to watch our patients and their recovery. Also, each time you visit bring a friend. In fact, bring a lot of friends. In December we plan to launch a membership drive in the hopes of doubling our current members. Earlier, I talked about how important our volunteers are to the organization. Well, our members are equally important. We need your support to keep this beautiful new place running. So, I have two requests for each one of you. One is that you will please continue to give your support to our cause and two is, rather than increase that support for 2012 (although we'll accept an increase too if it's in your budget), introduce WINC to your friends and family. Help us expand our membership so we can continue to expand and enhance the work we do. In fact, a membership makes a wonderful holiday gift. Consider giving a gift membership this year to someone you know. It's a wonderful way to show how much you care, and it's tax deductible as well, which you can't say for that pair of socks you were planning on giving to your uncle Bob.



**MISSION STATEMENT** - To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to their native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and services.

**VISION STATEMENT** - It is the vision of the Wildlife In Need Center as an established and valued asset to the community to rehabilitate the ever increasing numbers of injured, ill and orphaned wildlife native to Southeastern Wisconsin. We will continue to provide prevention and educational programs to promote the idea of "Connecting people and wildlife through education and rehabilitation". The Wildlife In Need Center will enhance its status as a respected member of the community at large and the other related organizations it serves.

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# A New View for Our Raptors

By Cheryl Diehl

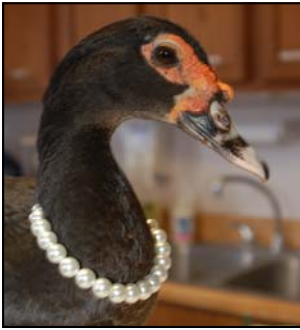
There are so many wonderful animal-care features at our new facility; it's hard to choose just one feature to write about. But since I have to choose just one, I'd like to tell you about our new Raptor Flight Enclosure. Though we saved thousands of animals at our previous facility, we were very limited in some respects. One of those limitations was our capability for providing pre-release exercise for rehabilitated raptors. We did have a pretty good-sized pole barn that we had adapted as a flight cage. The pole barn actually worked reasonably well for owls – nocturnal birds – because they didn't seem to mind the limited light available from the barn's two slatted windows and the two fluorescent ceiling lights. But hawks and falcons – diurnal birds – often didn't want to fly very readily, probably because of the limited lighting and the fact that they couldn't see the landscape or sky. So, when we had a Red-tailed Hawk out there, for example, we'd often have to go out to the pole barn regularly to motivate the bird to fly around and get the exercise it needed.

Another problem we had with the pole barn was the plastic sheeting we'd installed as a ceiling to keep the birds out of the rafters, over time, became more and more prone to coming loose. If a bird got up past the plastic sheeting, we'd have to mobilize several staff and volunteers and break out the tall ladders and spend quite a bit of time to get the bird out of the ceiling area and repair the plastic barrier. When it was windy the metal roof panels rumbled and clattered like a freight train. And in the summer, it could get uncomfortably warm and stuffy in there.

Our new Flight Enclosure is much brighter and better ventilated than the old pole barn. The Flight Enclosure's roof has several translucent panels that let in light, and two of the walls are made up of vertical slats spaced an inch apart. The slatted walls allow for much better ventilation and let the birds actually see the sky and the area surrounding the cage. The new Flight Enclosure also has been constructed to enable us to provide an opportunity for orphaned juvenile raptors to catch live mice, an essential step in preparing them for life in the wild. The pole barn was so old and "holey" that we couldn't possibly hope to contain a live mouse inside it. So, we often had to transfer our orphaned raptors to one of the very few rehabilitators who have a flight cage suitable for this purpose. As I write this, we have three orphaned Red-tailed Hawks preparing for release and learning to catch live mice in our new Flight Enclosure!

We wouldn't be able to provide such care for these birds without your support. Thank you all, so much!





## Daphne's Dispatch

### News and Gossip from the Wildlife In Need Center

What an eventful year it's been; and if I do say myself it sure has "flown" by! Even though we couldn't have picked a worse time to move to our new Center, everyone seems to be settling in nicely, and some of us, like Dakota who you can read about on page 8, and me, are thoroughly enjoying the new space! Even though the year will be coming to an end sooner than we think there is still a lot going on here at WINC.

Between the last of the squirrels who are waiting to be released and the latest fox being treated for mange (read about her on page 5 and 6) we're admitting many birds during this migration season. I don't envy them and their long journeys, that's why I found my way here where I have a nice dry bed and plenty of fresh greens and salmon! In fact, this November marks my 4th anniversary as an animal ambassador here at WINC. According to our records I've educated over 25,000 people in that time! If you want to send me an anniversary gift feel free to do so at W349 S1480 S. Waterville Road, Suite B, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066. You can mark it to the attention of "Daphne." Speaking of ambassadors, I've heard that some other smart animals will be joining our team in the very near future as well. Keep your eyes and ears open, as I'm sure to be introducing them to you all very soon! All of the ambassadors are also very excited about our new book! In case you hadn't heard, the other ambassadors and I are going to be the stars of a new educational book. It is a joint project between WINC, and our friends, Rebecca Seymour and Rebecca Mattano of The Little Environmentalists publishing company. We plan to use the book in many of our education programs, and some will even be available for friends like you to purchase for your favorite young readers! The only glitch is that we still need more funding to complete the project. We've got a project page on Crowdrise.com through which you can donate to the project, or consider making a donation directly to WINC; just designate funds for the "book" project. Although we received a generous grant from the Oconomowoc Area Foundation, in addition to much of the work for this awesome project having been donated, we still need assistance with professional editing as well as funding for the actual publishing costs. If you or anyone you know can help in anyway don't hesitate to contact me asap! Another cool thing I've seen around the Center is a 2012 Wisconsin Calendar in our gift shop. It's available for only \$15 and was created by the nonprofit, Wisconsin Gives Back and Red Airplane Aerial Photography. It showcases the state of Wisconsin from a whole different angle - literally. Their goal is to raise over one-million dollars for nonprofits across the state, and the Wildlife In Need Center is one of them! The calendar unfortunately doesn't feature yours truly like the one we had available last year, but it's still very nice. And for each one sold, WINC gets \$9 towards our mission! WINC has some available in our gift shop or you can also visit the Wisconsin Gives Back website and make your purchase online. Their website is <https://www.wi-givesback.com> where you can do a search for the Wildlife In Need Center. Oh yeah, and don't forget to check out our wish list below and the calendar on the following page for upcoming events, important dates, and fundraisers too!

Want to help even more? Here's a list of things that we **really** need this fall:

#### Goods

A couple of new or working used computers with  
Pentium 4 or newer processors and hard drives  
greater than 50 gigabits

20" or larger flat screen monitors

Paper Towels

Garbage bags (39 gallon and larger)

#### Food Items

Canned dog/cat food

Berries (unsweetened fresh or frozen)

Canned Veggies (peas or corn preferred)

Earthworms

## Wildlife In Need Center Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember!

### **World's Greatest Cookie Sale** **Friday, Nov 25th 12-4pm – the Friday after Thanksgiving** **Country Springs Hotel Grand Ballroom**

Wildlife In Need Center participates in this fundraiser each year. We have to guarantee 250 dozen cookies – minimum - to participate. All proceeds from our sales that day come to WINC directly. We need bakers! Please bake your favorite and fanciest holiday cookies. WINC has containers available. You can bring your cookies to WINC any day 9am-5pm the week before the sale except Thanksgiving Thursday.

Don't bake? Come Shop! Free admission and parking. Choose from thousands of homemade holiday cookies from 30 non-profit organizations. In addition to cookies, Country Springs is decorated for Christmas and has activities and entertainment scheduled including:

Holiday musical performances  
Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus  
Magic Show  
Cookie and Cupcake Decorating  
Face Painting  
Holiday Coloring Contest

The World's Greatest Cookie Sale is an amazing thing to see. Please help us make this annual holiday fundraiser a success for WINC by baking or shopping – or both!

### **Wildlife Quilt Raffle**

WINC couldn't function without its amazing volunteers, that's why we are so excited to offer this one-of-a-kind quilt made by WINC volunteer, Pat Adams! Tickets are only \$10 each and there are still some available. However, the drawing will take place

**Saturday, November 26th**

So be sure to get yours today! To view pictures of this beautiful quilt featuring many of your feathered favorites, visit <http://www.helpingwildlife.org/newsevents/fundraisers.htm>

Interested in becoming a WINC Volunteer?

Attend a New Volunteer Orientation and find out what it's all about! Our next orientation is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 30th from 6:30-8:00PM** here at the new Wildlife In Need Center

Please call ahead with your name and a phone number to ensure we save your spot!  
To find out more about volunteering at the Wildlife In Need Center visit our website at <http://www.helpingwildlife.org/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>

### **Sunday, December 4th Buy Local Gift Fair**

Do your holiday shopping somewhere that makes a difference! *Our Milwaukee's Buy Local Alternative Gift Fair* will be held at the Lakefront Palm Garden inside the Lakefront Brewery on Sunday, December 4th from noon to 4PM. Nonprofits from the Greater Milwaukee area offer unique and meaningful gifts for your friends and family. Stop out and be sure to stop by the Wildlife In Need Center's booth!



# It's the little things...

By Wildlife Rehabilitator, Chelsea Matson

As we continue to settle in and organize our beautiful new center, we are faced with decisions we have never had the luxury of making before. With all of this new space we have options as to where to put specific cages, equipment and even our more high-stress patients.

On September 21, WINC received an adult, female Red Fox with mange. For those of you unfamiliar with mange, it is caused by a parasite which crawls under the skin and fur. These mites are extremely irritating to the animal and they attempt to scratch them off and in the process end up losing most, if not all, of their fur. They accumulate layers of dry, dead skin which clog their pores and make it impossible for fur to grow back. They usually come to us extremely thin, dehydrated, and hypothermic if temperatures are low and they've lost most of their fur.

This specific fox still had a decent amount of fur left but you could see the layers of dead skin in patches throughout her body, face and tail. She was emaciated, dehydrated and weak. Our initial plan for her included a dose of Ivermectin (an anti-parasitic to kill the mites), re-hydration with subcutaneous fluids and letting her rest in a warm, dark and quiet space.

The first night is the most crucial for these patients. At times, the stress of being captured and handled by humans can be too much for animals in an extremely weakened state. However, this fox pulled through the first night. We decided to move her into our "Surgery Room" so she could be in total isolation with no other patients around to disturb her. We felt so lucky to be able to have an entire room devoted to her! In the past, we had to keep patients with contagious diseases in our shed/garage. The shed was not the quietest or warmest place no matter how much bedding we offered or how many heating pads and lamps we set up. It felt great knowing she was able to sleep in peace after a traumatic day.

After a week of re-hydrating and slowly introducing calories back into her diet, it was time for her first mange bath. For this process, we sedate the patient and give them a warm bath while scraping off dead layers of skin in order to open the pores. It was the first mange bath we had given at the new center and we were a little anxious about the process due to some previous problems at the old clinic. For example, we were constantly running out of hot water and water pressure was low. Not that big of a surprise seeing as we always have tons dishes being washed, laundry going, and pools being filled! This caused us to have to stop the bath early and repeat again in a week or two. We gave the entire bath and it was a success! Warm water and water pressure made a world of a difference in her skin appearance after the bath.

As this Red Fox continues on her journey to health, we know we now have all the things we need to do our best to help her get there. Although an empty room, warm water and water pressure don't seem like they would be the most exciting aspects of the new center they definitely have enhanced our ability to care for animals which is the best part. Thank you to all who made the new center possible!



## You are an important part of our "Flock!"

Just because we've made it to our new "nest" doesn't mean we no longer need your support! Our members are what give each animal who comes through our doors a second chance at life. We consider each and everyone of you a part of our "flock" if you will. This year we are hoping you'll help us to expand our "flock" by telling your friends and family about the Wildlife In Need Center. Each additional person we reach out to means one more animal we can save, one more child we can educate, and one more day we can provide sanctuary for one of our educational ambassador animals. Since 1994 we've admitted over 36,000 animals for care, have educated nearly 50,000 people through our education programs, and provided a unique volunteer opportunity for hundreds of people. We wouldn't be able to do all of this without the ongoing support of our hundreds of members like you. So, regardless of whether you can increase your donation this year to help us cover our rising costs or not, we hope you will at least pass the word along about our dedication to connecting the people and wildlife of southeastern Wisconsin through rehabilitation, research, and education. Help us help them today and tomorrow, renew your own or give a gift membership today. And feel free to stop out and visit us in our new location between 9AM and 5PM seven days a week!

### Become a Member or Give a Gift Membership Now

#### Become a Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of payment



My Check is Enclosed;

*Payable to the Wildlife In Need Center*



Please charge my Visa -or- Master card

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

◇ \$35 (Our minimum membership donation)

◇ \$100

◇ \$500

◇ \$1000



\$50



\$250



Other \_\_\_\_\_ (any amount helps!)

This is a Gift Membership for: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is in honor / memory of (please circle one): \_\_\_\_\_



I would like a notification sent to \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

For additional gift memberships feel free to photocopy this form or you can download a gift membership form from our website at [www.helpingwildlife.org](http://www.helpingwildlife.org)

# Changes, Changes, Changes

By Wildlife Education Coordinator, Leslie Kiehl

Change can sometimes be good, sometimes bad, but the changes for our Education Department are GREAT! Moving into our new facility is opening up a wonderful new component for education. In the past our educational leaders and the animal ambassadors would and still do travel to your location of choice for an educational program. With our new Gathering Room however, we can offer educational programs on-site as well. We will have the capability to accommodate groups of up to 40 people for a program. Yes, this adds convenience for our leaders in staying on our own premises but the benefit for the animals is huge too. Should you decide to have your program with us in our Gathering Room the animals will not have to be transported outside in varying temperatures or confined to their travel boxes for long periods of time.



Dakota, our Great Horned Owl has been out on display for all of our open house events and he loves the new space. Thankfully, it has been a comfortable adjustment for him.

Our new accommodations not only offer a great inside education space but being on the UW-Waukesha field station grounds also offers you the opportunity to expand your educational experience outside by hiking the beautiful trails or taking a walk on the Lake Henrietta bog walk.

If you would like to schedule a program at our new facility, please contact Leslie Kiehl, Education our Wildlife Education Coordinator at 262-965-3090 to do so. Dakota and friends can't wait to show off their new digs!



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